

## The County Convention.

Which was held on Saturday last, resulted in the harmonious nomination of a full ticket for the August election, as follows: For Representative, N. B. Weber, of Lawrence township, and Y. E. R. Wilson, of Decatur township; for Auditor, Nathaniel Bolton; for Assessor, Ahira Wells; Commissioner, John McFall.

Better selections could hardly have been made. The candidates for representatives are both good men, in the best sense of the word. In nominating them, the convention merely gave force and effect to a disposition of the democratic public mind, already formed. For months previous to the convention, we heard hardly any other names mentioned in connection with the office to which they have been nominated. And they were thus fixed upon, not because of any electioneering on their part; but simply because by a sort of unanimous consent, they were regarded as the best men who could be selected. We are quite sure that they are worthy of this partiality of the people, and that, if they should be elected, the expectations of their friends will be more than answered. They are sound, practical, common sense men, whose interest is entirely identified with that of the great body of their fellow citizens, and whose characters are without spot or blemish. We will answer for it, that the people can find no men, to whom they could more safely delegate their power in the General Assembly of the State.

Our friend Nat. Bolton was nominated for Auditor by the spontaneous and unsolicited action of the Convention, and without any anticipation of such an honor on his part. One who like him has wielded the weapons of political warfare, must almost unavoidably make some personal enemies, and we suppose he has his full share. A man without enemies, is indeed a "poor stick." But we hope, nevertheless, that Mr. Bolton will be able to overcome all difficulties in this and every other respect. He is well qualified for the office, and if the people should elect him, we have no doubt that he will faithfully and efficiently execute its duties.

Ahira Wells, nominated for Assessor, is just as good a man as could have been selected. The office of Assessor is a very important one: it touches, nearly every tax-payer's pocket. In filling it, therefore, we should look for some better qualification than lameness, whether of judgment or limb. Integrity and sound judgment are essential requisites, and Ahira Wells possesses them to as great an extent as most men.

John McFall, for Commissioner, is like pure gold. He has been tried and not found wanting. We have only time and room now to say—success to him!

## United States Senator.

Can any body tell us why the Governor of this State did not appoint a Senator in the place of Mr. White to attend the late session of the Senate? The Constitution of the United States has provided that he may do so, in the event of a vacancy—and evidently contemplated that there would be no delay in the exercise of this power. Can it be that the Governor has himself a lurking after a seat in the Senate, and is not disposed to give a temporary occupant an advantage over him? We do not say that he has such motives, but such a thing may be.—*Wabash Express.*

We will inform our contemporary why in every case in which a vacancy has been occasioned by the omission of the Legislature to elect a United States Senator, including those in Delaware and Maryland, where the whigs staved off the election, no temporary appointment was made by the Executive of the State to fill it. It is because in an early case of the kind in Connecticut, in which the Governor of that State appointed Mr. Luman to fill a similar vacancy, the United States Senate refused to admit him to his seat, on the ground that a vacancy in that office occasioned by the failure of the State Legislature to elect, was not such a vacancy as is contemplated by the Constitution of the United States.

We are free to say, however, that the language of that instrument seems to us broad enough to cover such a case. But as a standing decision of the Senate made a "long time ago," takes a different view of the matter, it is clear, that the appointee, if one had been made, would have had his journey and expenses as the only fruits of his mission. Hence, as before remarked, ever since the case of Mr. Luman, no Governor has attempted to fill such a vacancy.

Will the editor of the Express, by giving this an insertion in his paper, afford the desired information to his numerous readers?—*Eds. SENTINEL.*

## Death of Col. A. T. Whight.

We learn from the true American, that Col. A. T. Whight, of Pike county, died at his residence a few days ago. Mr. Whight has twice represented Pike County in the State Legislature, and last winter was voted for for Speaker. His loss will be felt and regretted by the large circle of friends, to whom he was endearing by an amiable character and natural goodness of heart. The loss of such a man is a public calamity.

## Hon. John Pettit.

Has been unanimously nominated by the eighth Congressional District, as the Democratic candidate for Congress. We have no doubt of his success.

## Removal.

We would call attention to the removal of the Office of the Surveyor General of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. All interested will be governed accordingly. See advertisement.

## Ventriloquism and Art.

Mr. McCann, the facetious and popular Ventriloquist and delineator of eccentric characters is now giving evening exhibitions, for a short time, at the Palmer House. Among other delineations, are the Hypocrite; Tabitha Liptongue, an old maid who knows every body's business but her own; old woman of 80, with a song; Billy Jones, quite as comical a genius as the famous John Jones, we are told; Joab Squash, whose senses lay round his head instead of inside of it, &c. &c. Mr. McCann will appropriately introduce vocal modulations, called ventriloquism, in which he will hold conversations with a number of imaginary persons—the voice appearing to be in various places. The Dance of Dinner Plates, and various other amusing feats will also be performed. Let all who love fun call and see Mr. McCann.

## Jewelry, Watches, &amp;c.

We would call special attention to the advertisements of W. H. TALBOT. Mr. T. has returned lately, and has added many fine articles to his already extensive establishment. He has also now in his employ, one of the best silver ware manufacturers in the country, and a watch maker and repairer, who, to use a western phrase, "don't know any thing else." Being thus prepared to accommodate all his patrons, we cannot see why any one should "travel farther and fare worse." Should we attempt to enumerate a title of the articles he has for sale, ornamental and useful, gaudy and chaste, amusing and instructive, we should fill a column. We invite our friends to call and examine before purchasing of others.

The editor of a whig paper in Michigan thus alludes to his losses in the recent election:

"The democrats in this town are getting quite drowsy, while the whigs look as poor as church mice. We won't growl; but it grates confounded hard to rig a fellow from head to foot, and then have him cut your acquaintance."

## Hon. Henry W. Ellsworth.

We mentioned last week that President Polk had appointed Hon. HENRY W. ELLSWORTH as Charge d'Affaires to Norway and Sweden. We had neither time nor space then to more than make the announcement. We now take the occasion to say, that besides the gratification it will give Mr. E.'s friends, it will prove to the satisfaction of all, that the President has not forgotten Indiana, in the distribution of Executive favors. Like every man who has taken an active part in politics—who has toiled and borne the heat and burden of the day—who has steadily pursued the even tenor of his way, neither swerving to the right nor to the left,—Mr. Ellsworth has necessarily made enemies, not only among his political opponents, but among that class of Democrats denominated "Parlor Politicians." The appointment, then, may give the latter class temporary offence. But the sterling democracy will praise the President for the selection. As much has already been said on the subject, and probably more will be said, a better opportunity will present itself for us to enlarge upon them. At present, for the information of those of Mr. Ellsworth's friends who are anxious on this matter, we shall add a few comments of a different nature.

And first, we will add a few words as to the country of Mr. E.'s residence, as some have found a difficulty in accounting for our former statement that Mr. E. was appointed Charge to Sweden and Norway.

Sweden is a kingdom in the north of Europe, comprising Sweden properly so called, Norway, and Swedish Lapland, which countries contain the principal part of ancient Scandinavia. Sweden proper is bounded N. by Lapland, E. by the gulf of Bothnia, S. by the Baltic, and W. by Norway. Length 1,000 miles from north to south; breadth 300 from east to west. Finland was ceded to Russia in 1809, and Pomerania to Prussia in 1814; in compensation for which, Sweden accepted Norway, which was annexed to her domain, making the whole area of the kingdom about 343,000 square miles.

Though mountainous on the north and west, the Dofrine mountains separating Norway from Sweden, it is in general a level country. It is well watered by rivers, and contains many lakes, some of considerable magnitude. A canal between the Wener and Wetter, uniting the Baltic with the German sea, was completed in 1830, and cost about \$5,000,000. Twenty-four rivers fall into the Wetter, and only one issues from it. The Lakes abound in fish.

The natural curiosities of Sweden are its catenacts, and the scenery of its forests and lakes. The catenact of the river Dahl is grand beyond description, and is considered one of the most picturesque and astonishing scenes on the globe.

But a small part of the soil of Sweden and Norway is cultivated, owing to the length of the winters; but the country is rich in minerals, timber, &c. Among the former are iron, silver and copper. It may be said that there is no spring, the summer breaking in suddenly, lasting some three months and a half, and as suddenly changing to winter. Though long, the winters are neither subject to changes nor extreme degrees of cold.

The climate of Sweden and Norway is extremely healthy, and its effects are seen throughout all animal nature. Hence the men are stout and healthy, and the ladies distinguished for their cheerful and Gothic complexions. The Swedes are chiefly of Gothic origin, and bear the national character of bravery, frankness, honesty and hospitality common to that race. They are called the "French of the North," on account of their vivacity. The men are in general tall, robust, sincere and industrious; but the peasantry make the women perform the drudgery of farming, and various other menial offices, which it is to be hoped, they will soon abandon.

The commerce of Sweden is considerable. The trade extends to various parts of Europe, the United States, and the East and West Indies. The exports are iron, copper, skins, leather, timber, pitch, tar, herring and fish oil. The imports are grain, (there not being enough raised for consumption,) flax, hemp, tobacco, sugar, coffee, wines, silk, and various manufactures.

The capital of the kingdom is Stockholm, at which place Mr. Ellsworth will reside. The other principal cities are Upsal, famous for its University; Gottenburg, a large seaport, and Carlscrona, the station of the Royal Navy. The only colonial possession of Sweden is St. Bartholomew's, in the West India. Swedish merchants and sailors, however, may be found in various parts of the world, and we vouch that the latter are good shipmates and no "soldiers." No nation has at different periods been more distinguished for a martial spirit, and under some of their kings they were the terror and admiration of Europe.

The Swedish language is a dialect of the Teutonic, and resembles that of Denmark. We believe, however, that the French is the Court language; and if so, Mr. Ellsworth will be at home, as we think he understands both French and Spanish.

The Swedes have a great taste for literature, and the cultivation of the arts and sciences is much encouraged. Music is so much esteemed in Sweden, especially among the ladies, that it has become a general science. The celebrated botanist and naturalist, Linnaeus, was a native of Sweden. Here also resided Puffendorf, the great civilian and historian.

The three kingdoms of Sweden, Denmark and Norway, had been united in 1387, by the treaty of union of Calmar, projected by Margaret, queen of Denmark and Norway. By the articles of this treaty, the three kingdoms were to remain united under one sovereign, elected by each kingdom in its turn, who should divide his residence equally among them. This union continued till the reign of Christian II., who being ambitious, determined to become absolute. He formed the horrid scheme of murdering all the Swedish nobility, who he knew would oppose his arbitrary measures. The design was executed, but not so completely as he had intended. Ninety-four persons of distinction, and great numbers of the common people, without distinction of age or sex, were massacred by order of the King, with the assistance of his minister Troll, archbishop of Upsal. Gustavus Vasa, a young man of noble birth, brilliant courage, and amiable qualities, escaped almost alone from this horrible butchery, and saved himself by taking refuge in the mountains of Dalecarlia. Having gained the peasants on his side, he appeared at their head, descended from the mountains, was victorious in every engagement, and entirely expelled the Danes; and was raised to the throne in 1523. He died, after a brilliant reign, in 1590. Among the monarchs of the family of Gustavus Vasa, who successively reigned over Sweden, one of the most distinguished was Gustavus Adolphus, who defeated the Russians, Austrians and Poles, and died while victorious on the field of battle at Lutzen in 1633. He was succeeded by his daughter, Christina, a woman of great genius, and of great learning. She embraced the Roman Catholic religion, and abdicated the throne in 1650. The throne was then occupied by Charles X., Charles XI., and Charles XII., in succession. The latter ascended the throne at the age of fifteen, and distinguished himself particularly by his victory over Peter the great, Czar of Russia. This prodigious success rendered his name terrible to all the Courts of Europe, and his friendship was courted by all the respectable powers. Though his conduct was often imprudent, he dethroned Augustus, king of Poland, and placed the crown on the head of Stanislaus, reduced the king of Denmark to peace, and humbled the emperor of Germany. He was finally subdued by Peter the Great, at the battle of Pol-

towa, in 1708, when the Swedish army was destroyed, and Charles lost the fruits of nine years labor and nearly one hundred battles. He was finally killed while making war on the Danes, at the siege of Frederickshall in Norway, in 1718, when he was 36 years of age.

Upon the death of Charles XII., the Swedes conferred the crown upon Ulrica Eleonor, his youngest sister. Ulrica resigned the crown to her consort Frederick I. From this period the monarchy was the most limited one in Europe, till 1772; when Gustavus III. effected a revolution, by which he gained the most essential royal prerogatives, without being an absolute monarch. He was assassinated in 1792, and his son, Gustavus Adolphus attained his majority and ascended the throne in 1796. This prince was deposed in 1809, and his uncle, the Duke of Sudermania was called to the throne. In consequence of the death of his son, the Crown Prince, he assembled a Swedish diet, to choose a successor to the throne. The diet met, August, 1810, and after a short speech from the king, they elected the French Marshal Bernadotte, Prince of Ponte Corvo, Crown Prince. Under the title of Charles John, he succeeded to the throne Feb. 5, 1818. He married the Princess Eugene Bernadine de Clary. He died last year; and was succeeded by his son Oscar, said to be the handsomest man in Europe. A correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, writing from Brussels, under date of Dec. 1844, says of the present king:

"He perceives clearly that his only support on a throne on which his father was but an intruder, is the love and affection of his people. What Bernadotte took at the point of the sword, he has to preserve by wisdom and moderation. The legitimate heirs of the throne of Gustavus are still living: one of them is a General in the Austrian army, so that from the old representative of legitimacy in Europe, no succor could be expected in time of need. In one word, the present King of Sweden knows that he is a parvenu—the name of Louis Philippe, in spite of his noble extraction—and that, therefore, he has to create a power within the State, on which to lean in time of need. Louis Philippe has the national guard and the small shopkeepers and manufacturers of France; the King of Sweden has the peasantry, and, in truth, the whole mass of the laboring classes, to rely on in case of danger from within or without. One of the first things proposed by him, on mounting the throne, was the re-modeling of the Constitution of the country; but in truth, the reforms are to be made is best illustrated by the following fact—One of the officers of the Royal Guards, or regiments of dragoons, took a part in the elections, and attempted to advise the people in the manner in which they should act in the present crisis. The King, learning of it, without punishing the officer, merely wrote to the commander of the regiment, and informed him that it caused him much sorrow to learn that the ministers of power, those who should have nothing to do with the making of the law, these days, in fact, consisted merely in aiding the executive, and who, on that account, are the very worst and most dangerous persons to meddle with popular affairs, had taken part in the solution of the greatest problem proposed by the Swedish nation. He hoped such things would not occur again; and that the military would strictly attend to the narrowly defined line of their duty. What a lesson this to the world—and especially to the other States of Europe—France, Prussia and Spain! and imparted, too, by the son of a parent general! By the by, I might remark here, that of all the sovereigns of Europe, the only two which are admitted to possess talents of an uncommon order are those which have succeeded to the throne in consequence of popular revolutions: the rest are dull and commonplace, in proportion to the purity of their pedigrees. What a comment this on the principle of legitimacy! The fact is, the crowned heads, or vices of Europe, have been marrying commoners until the blood has become as poor as the treasury, so that, independent of the democratic tendencies of the age, the race must, in the course of a century, become extinct by the process of natural laws."

The government of Sweden is a limited monarchy, and its religion the Lutheran Protestant, under the Upsal and thirteen Bishops. The title of the sovereign is "King of Norway and Sweden," which two countries however, have different constitutions. The Diet of Sweden consists of four orders, viz: 1st, nobles hereditary; 2d, bishops and clergy; 3d, merchants and citizens; 4th, peasants or agriculturists. Each of these bodies deliberate separately. The Diet has the right of legislation and taxation, but the king has an unqualified veto.

Stockholm, the city where Mr. Ellsworth will reside, is the capital of Sweden, with a castle, a magnificent palace, and several other handsome public buildings. It occupies, besides two peninsulas, seven rocky islands, between the Lake Maeler, and a bay of the Baltic, and is remarkable for its romantic scenery. The harbor is an inlet of the Baltic, and the water of such a depth, that ships of the largest burthen can approach the quay. At the extremity of the harbor several streets rise one above another, in the form of an amphitheatre, and the palace crowns the summit. The Royal Academy of Sciences owes its institution to the celebrated Linnaeus. The Royal Academy of Paintings and Sculpture has a fine collection of casts, from the antique statues of Rome, presented by King Adolphus Frederick; and the arsenal contains an immense number of trophies and standards; also, the hat and clothes worn by Charles XII. when he was killed. Stockholm has manufactures of iron, glass, china, silk, cotton, woolen, linen, &c. It is 320 miles northeast of Copenhagen, and 1,000 northeast of Paris.

This outline we believe will be sufficient to show that Mr. E. is not going "north of the north pole." We have no doubt but the situation will be quite agreeable to him; and we also believe that he will pay the strictest attention to cultivating the present friendly feeling between the two governments, and do credit to the one which has honored him with the high and responsible mission.

## Speech Making.

We often hear the objection raised against a man spoken of for office, that "he is no orator"—"he can't make a speech." To a great extent this grows out of our "stump" speech making custom, borrowed from the "Hustings" of Old England, but which many imagine so exclusively democratic. It can only be very popular among people too ignorant or too indolent to read; and to say the best of it, the system of stump electioneering gives the biggest rascal, as often as the best orator, the best chance. There is not one man in a thousand who will not endeavor to modify his speeches in such a case to accommodate the opinions or prejudices of his auditory. Oratory is a good gift, both to speaker and hearer; but a man may give advice who is no orator—and he who can give advice skillfully on general matters of legislation though he be as little of an orator as Moses, is capable of being a statesman. How many individuals are there of this stamp, who seldom open their lips in the legislative hall, except to read a motion or to say a few words of explanation, who are yet active on committees, and skillful in making reports. Yet such men are generally either eloquent in conversation, or capable of writing with power. Every legislator should be capable of giving and receiving advice. He should not be too wise in his own conceit to ask advice of any individual—not too ignorant to afford his proportion of advice on matters which he ought to understand. The people send their representative to give advice as well as to vote on important questions. He should be capable of adding something to the wisdom of the whole body, or the people should keep him at home employed about his own business.

Polly Bodine has been convicted at New York of the murder of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Houseman, on Long Island, an account of which we published some time ago. The prisoner received her sentence, while in her seat, with apparent firmness and did not weep until she had reached the door way. Her son, Albert, (who is a remarkably fine looking youth,) was the only member of her family who was present and accompanied his mother out of Court. He wept bitterly. The jury recommended the wretched woman to mercy.

## The Pittsburgh Sufferers.

We are rejoiced to see that the charity, so much preached but so little practised here, is being extended by others to the sufferers of Pittsburgh. It is a burning shame and disgrace to our place, that we remain so supine and inactive under the circumstances. Twice have meetings been called, and at the first (two humble mechanics) attended! At the second, there were four persons all told! What ought we to expect of others under these circumstances? It is idle to say that we are poor! When the location of a Rail Road Depot is to be made, we can offer our broad acres, our labor by hundreds, and our cash; and for what? For mere moonshine! for such will be the amount of any difference in such location. It is because all think to reap a harvest of riches thereby! Remember, when preaching of charity hereafter, that "the congregation of hypocrites shall be desolate, and fire shall consume the tabernacles of bribery."—*Jon. xv. 31.*

We notice the following to record the magnanimity of others, individually, some of whom are denounced as unholily by our wise ones, and in the hope that something may yet be done here.

In Philadelphia, at a meeting for the purpose of affording aid to the sufferers, the following resolution was offered by Hon. Geo. M. Dallas, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Select and Common Councils of the city of Philadelphia, to adopt such measures as they may deem most expedient for immediately raising by public loan, the sum of FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, to be lent to the city of Pittsburgh on conditions that may be offered, in order to relieve the sufferers who have lost their houses, property and means of usual livelihood, by the late disastrous conflagration."

The sum was promptly voted for, and no inquiry made as to its "constitutionality." The Philadelphia Gazette says:

"DROUGHT AID.—We learn that the Committee of Arrangements for the sufferers by the Pittsburgh fire, transmitted yesterday six thousand dollars, being the result of only a part of a day's collection."

The Pittsburgh Gazette has the following:

"HON. JAMES BUCHANAN. This distinguished gentleman, with a promptness which does honor to his head and heart, has forwarded to the Mayor the following draft and letter:

"WASHINGTON, April 14, 1845. "Cashier of the Bank of the Metropolis, Pay to the order of W. J. Howard, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, for the use of the sufferers by the late fire, Five Hundred Dollars. JAMES BUCHANAN."

"Dear Sir.—Will you please to accept and apply the above toward the relief of the sufferers in the late dreadful calamity. My feelings of sympathy and compassion have never been so strongly excited upon any similar occasion. But let the people be of good cheer, and exert their accustomed energy, and under the blessings of Providence, all will yet be well, and Pittsburgh will arise more glorious than ever from its ashes. JAMES BUCHANAN."

WM. J. HOWARD, Esq. Cincinnati and Louisville are vying with each other as to which city shall send the most. We have seen a letter, says the Democrat, from a gentleman there who says: "Five thousand dollars have already been subscribed, and the subscriptions are rapidly going on." The following sums among others were subscribed:

T. & W. McCrum,	\$500
Cassiday & Ranney,	300
J. & J. Jacob,	300
Allen & Messick,	200

And many others from \$200 down to \$50 were received. The treasurer of the fund at Pittsburgh has also acknowledged the following individual subscriptions:

Coleman & Stetson, of Astor House, N. Y.	\$100
Chestnut Jennings, of the City Hotel, N. Y.	100
Curtis & Hart, Philadelphia,	100
James B. Irwin, of Pittsburgh, in groceries,	100
R. P. Peebles, Pitt township, in hardware,	100

The Mayor and Councils of Baltimore have been requested to forward to the Pittsburgh Sufferers the sum of \$5,000, in satisfaction of the collections to be made among the citizens.

NOTE.—The people of Chillicothe, Ohio, have followed the recommendation of a public meeting and subscribed liberally to aid the sufferers at Pittsburgh. Up to Friday morning last, the subscriptions amounted to between seven and eight hundred dollars.

And now, ye generous sons of wealth, read the following; and if the blush of shame does not mantle your cheeks, take a lesson from these noble school boys:

The boys of the Zane street Public School have contributed \$37.75 for the relief of the sufferers at Pittsburgh.—*Phil. Gazette.*

## Demagogues.

No man can be a successful demagogue, who underestimates the intelligence of the People. Indeed, an ingenious man might easily trace a dividing line between the scientific demagogue and the quack demagogue. The quack will often give an overdose of humbug, which will be certain to mislead those upon whom he is operating, to his own inevitable disgrace.

We always laugh in our sleeves at such fellows, and willingly give them as much rope as they want. As the sailors say, "the higher a monkey climbs, the more he shows," &c. &c. But the scientific demagogue is rather to be feared than laughed at. He does not understate the mental capacity of the people, but he dishonestly takes advantage of their ignorance and their credulity. He is much more careful to fall short, than to overdo. Like a wise physician, he gives smaller doses than the oracles of the profession would justify; and the wiser he is, the more scrupulous he becomes. He no more doubts the ability of the mass of the people to discriminate justly in relation to any matter or thing fairly placed before their minds, than the physician doubts the principle of vitality common to all. It is often very hard, for even the most acute and observing, to determine satisfactorily to their own minds, between such a demagogue and an honest man.

Truth endureth forever, says the Psalmist. If this be true, and we suppose nobody will doubt it, there may possibly be as much truth now in the following observations, made several years ago, as there was then. Every reader can judge for himself:

"Parties which are made up to subvert the interests of particular men without regard to the great interests of the majority, are what we have much to deprecate in this country. The great body of the community are always inclined to do what is right and to follow democratic principles. It is a few leading men, who have certain selfish objects to obtain, who are perpetually attempting to deceive the people, and to make them believe that it is their interest to serve them, the leaders, while their own acts are the very cause of all the difficulties brought upon the public. These men are now busy at work in order to distract and divide the friends of liberal principles, by the aid of exciting prejudices against the men who have all their lives defended popular rights and liberal doctrines—such as have sustained the rights and interests of the many, who compose the great body of the community."

SUPPOSED SUICIDE.—A young woman named Mary Curran, of New Albany, Ia., was recently found dead in her bed. When she went to bed, the night previous to her death, she was in good health, and her sudden death is ascribed to poison. It seems, that she had recently been seduced by a young man in New Albany, and a few weeks since, had given birth to a child. The young man afterwards married another woman; and it is supposed that in consequence of this act of her faithless lover, Miss Curran committed suicide. We are sorry that the name of this scandal is not given. It ought to be held up to public scorn.

## Beginning at the Right Place.

The Globe makes the following gratifying announcement:

"REFORM.—The President, we understand, has issued a circular to the departments, requiring an exact observance of the laws in regard to the organization of the offices, the duties and attendance of the Clerks, and to enforce it, has directed the absence of persons visiting Washington on business with the departments of the delays and expense to which they are subjected, has rendered the interposition of the executive necessary. The circular also requires a distribution of labor among clerks proportioned to compensation allowed, and provides for the suppression of the injustice (too long tolerated) of making the meritorious and faithful public servants perform the duties of such as may be found negligent or incompetent."

This is commencing a much needed reform in the right quarter, and we hope it will be made decidedly "progressive."

We understand further, from private information, that the system of "monthly reports," in vogue under General Jackson, will be revived in the several departments, by which the business of each will be ascertained. This, together with the *ten hour* rule, which will also, as we understand, be enforced, will soon, not only bring up the business of the several departments, which has always of late years been behind-hand, but will enable the government, if persevered in, to dispense with at least one half of the blood-suckers, who are now paid large salaries under the name of clerks.

It was the rigid enforcement of this system in the General Land Office, by Governor Whitcomb, while Commissioner, that enabled him to bring up several years' arrears of business, and that accomplished, to dismiss about twenty clerks. This too, while all the other departments, though with much less need of them, were continually applying to Congress for additional clerks.

A great number of these clerkships had become mere sinecures, and the less work the clerks had to perform, the more desirous would they become to retain their places by hook or by crook. They would be whigs or democrats as circumstances required; would be friendly with their superiors so long as they would wink at such abuses, and would libel and assail in every way any one who had the temerity to seek for a reform. We may therefore expect to hear President Polk assailed most virulently for the course he has thought it right to pursue; but we shall know just how much credit to give to such assaults.

## The New Mail Contracts.

The contracts for carrying the mails in New York and the New England States, were made at Washington a few days ago. The contractors begged hard of the P. M. General to make the contracts under the present law, or if he would not do that, to renew them on the old terms, until the contractors could make application to Congress for "relief." Mr. Johnson very properly refused to do either, and decided that the contracts must be made in accordance with the new law. This will save hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Department in lessening the cost of transportation, as the new law permits contractors to carry the mail in the most economical method they can contrive, so long as they keep the mail secure from the weather and thieves, and deliver it within the prescribed hours. The old law on many of the routes, compelled the contractor to run, either two or four horse post coaches; and in case one contractor underbid another, it compelled the successful bidder to purchase the horses and stage property of his predecessor, although he may have had a supply of all the requisites on hand sufficient for his purposes. This provision unquestionably entailed heavy expenses upon the department—expenses too, foreign from its legitimate objects. Under the new law, it will be relieved from all this, and thus far will be enabled to give the new cheap postage system a fair trial. We have no doubt it will eventually relieve the post office department of full one-third its former burdens for transporting the mails.

Mr. Johnson deserves the hearty approbation of the country, for the course he has adopted, and we have no doubt he will receive it. He has to contend against a very powerful influence, but he is just the man to do that successfully.

## General Land Office.

We learn from the Globe that the Hon. James Shields, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Illinois, has been appointed Commissioner of the General Land Office, and commenced the performance of his duties. Mr. Shields is an accomplished lawyer and gentleman, and one every way worthy to fill the station to which he has been called. He has been a favorite of the people of Illinois and of the neighboring States, whose confidence he has won as well by strength and probity of character and amenity of manner, as by the intellectual power he has manifested in the advocacy of republican principles. His appointment will be most gratifying to the West.

It is gratifying, particularly, that in most of his appointments, the President has fairly extorted praise from his political opponents. Relative to the new Commissioner, Judge Shields, the St. Louis Republican, whig, says:

"Judge Shields has attained a high reputation in his official capacity, and as a man of industry, and his gentlemanly manners will make his appointment generally acceptable."

## Whiggery and Nativism.

Many of the leading Whig papers of New York previous to the late municipal election, expressed the warmest feelings of friendship towards the "Native" faction. "We certainly," said the Express, "have a great preference for Native Americanism over Locofocism;" and so said most of the rest. But whiggery being beaten, and Nativism entirely used up, in the contest alluded to, the whig papers there and elsewhere begin to declare that the Nativists are very illiberal scamps, and that they never had and never want any thing to do with such a miserable faction! Well, well—this is a way whiggery has; and we should not be surprised, by and by, to hear them assert that they never even bled and cooed with the Nativists, much less thought they were right in fighting for a single idea of the Hartford Convention, instead of for the whole batch! We hope, however, that they will not forget what Daniel Webster, one of their great leaders told them in his Faneuil Hall speech, immediately after the late Presidential election. It is well enough to keep the sayings of such great men in mind: little ones will be less apt to make fools of themselves! Here is an extract from that speech of Webster:

"There is an imperative necessity for reforming the naturalization laws of the United States. The preservation of the government, the interest, and the welfare of all parties, the honor of the nation, all require that subordinate and different party questions should be made to yield to this great end. And no man who esteems the prosperity and existence of his country, as of more importance than a fleeting party triumph, will, or can, hesitate to give his adherence to these principles."

Very thing else, he then said, ought to yield to Nativism. He would now declare that idea "obsolete," without a fee for the declaration.

J. B. Jones, Esq. has disposed of his interest in the Madisonian newspaper to Theophilus Fisk and Jesse E. Dow, Esqs.

It is said that pieces of burnt shingles, from the fire in Pittsburgh, were blown upwards of thirty-two miles, into Westmoreland county.

## Wisdom and Truth from a Whig!

Thurlow Weed, the editor of the Albany Evening Journal, the Whig State organ of New York, and one of the ablest tacticians of that party, is at present recreating, (as John P. D. says he is doing) at New Orleans, *revisiting*, at one of the West India Islands. Weed is sending to the Ev. Journal a series of interesting letters on general topics, occasionally spiced with politics. In one written in February and published in the Ev. Journal of April 4th, we find the following paragraphs to which we ask the attention of Whigs as well as democrats. In the first two of them he deprecates the policy which has always characterized the Federal Whig leaders, of incessant hostility to the will of the majority of the people. He evidently sees the folly on the part of the Whigs, which impels them to adhere to this peculiar disposition of their progenitors, the Federalists.

But it is the last paragraph which is the most striking. It is a full and complete acknowledgement of what the democrats have always asserted, and the Whigs constantly denied, that the "misguided" whig party alone were responsible for the villany of the U. S. Bank, in the closing years of its career, and the consequent "bankruptcy, reproach and dishonor" which was inflicted upon the whole country. Every man, whig or democrat, who will thoroughly investigate the subject will be perfectly satisfied of the truth of these statements and confessions of Mr. Weed.

"I cannot agree with those who oppose the admission of Texas, after the people, by a blind and reckless, but decisive majority, declared themselves in favor of that measure. I would have admitted Texas promptly, in obedience to the popular sentiment, but with a territorial Government, leaving the question of Slavery to be settled when she claimed admission as a State or States. And upon the question of slavery, when the people had been awakened to a sense of their former delusion and folly, they would have resisted to the death, had such resistance become necessary. While we leave slavery, with the territory and power which that interest smuggled into the constitution, they enjoy all they have right to ask, and all that freedom should yield. Let them keep their 'p